

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING SUE MERRILL
CRAWFORD ANTLE

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Sue Merrill Crawford Antle, the matriarch of the central coast of California's Antle family. Sue will be remembered as a devoted mother and wife, talented sewing artist, and active supporter of her community.

Sue Antle was born on February 23, 1936 in Watsonville, California. A native of the Central Coast, Sue attended Watsonville High School, where she met Bob Antle. The two would eventually enjoy 58 years of marriage together.

Sue and Bob would remain on the Central Coast throughout their lives, establishing even deeper roots in their community. As Bob managed his family's lettuce company, Sue tended to the family home and raised their four children. Sue could often be found in her home's sewing room, where she created beautiful and precious keepsakes for her family, friends, and community. These pieces included Christmas stockings for her entire family and colorful jackets frequently auctioned for charity.

Sue and Bob's family on the Central Coast continued to grow to include her children's spouses, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and nieces and nephews. Sue's beloved family was a foundation for her life and a blessing that guided her desire to give back to her community. Sue co-chaired California State University Monterey Bay's Have a Heart fundraiser for student scholarships and, as an avid booklover, took joy in reading to children through the Monterey County Reads program established by the Panetta Institute for Public Policy. Sue was a passionate advocate for the children of field workers and leaves a legacy of fostering early childhood education and supporting first-generation college students.

Sue will be remembered for unfailing kindness and generosity. We, as a community, celebrate her legacy and life well-lived. Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the life of Sue Merrill Crawford Antle.

HONORING MICHAEL MIKULKA

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished career of Michael Mikulka, who is retiring after 43 years of distinguished service at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and after serving as President of AFGE Local 704. Mike was recently awarded "Man of the Year" hon-

ors by AFGE District 7 for his fight to save the EPA Region 5 office and the jobs of the scientists and engineers who protect the Midwest. He helped protect our environment and fought for the rights of EPA workers over his more than four decades of work at the EPA, and I honor and thank him for his important work.

Michael Mikulka started his career at the Environmental Protection Agency in November 1976 in the Water Division at EPA's Region 5 Chicago, Illinois Office, where he first helped municipalities receive grants under the Clean Water Act (CWA) to install wastewater treatment plant systems. He then enforced the Clean Water Act, taking charge of the Region's CWA enforcement, bringing cases in civil court for injunctive relief and penalties against polluters who dumped toxins into our lakes and streams. Mike then moved to the EPA Region 5 Land and Chemicals Division, where he was charged with cleaning up complicated hazardous waste sites in communities throughout the Midwest.

As part of his career at EPA, Mike received numerous commendations, awards and medals attesting to his superior service to the region. Mike has been a Professional Engineer for over 35 years and was recently elected a life member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, where he has been a member for over 40 years.

Some of the significant projects Mike worked on at EPA include:

Participating on an inter-agency task force which developed the plan to clean up the Combined Sewer Overflows in the Twin Cities;

Helping develop the Region 5 Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) control strategy, much of which was later incorporated into the national CSO control strategy;

Leading an interagency task force to develop a strategy to clean up the Grand Calumet River, the most polluted river in the Great Lakes region;

Bringing and resolving cases against those polluting the Grand Calumet River, as Chief of Clean Water Act (CWA) enforcement officer for Illinois, Indiana and Minnesota;

While he was the EPA Region 5 head of CWA enforcement, the region consistently led the nation in environmental enforcement with respect to numbers of cases, penalties collected, and environmental benefit;

Helping EPA Region 5's Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Branch become the regional enforcement contact on the RCRA hazardous waste air emissions standards and conducted training nationwide for EPA, states and industry;

Providing technical assistance to regional staff to develop and prosecute cases against fuel blenders and other treatment, storage and disposal facilities who were not meeting the RCRA air emissions standards;

Working on significant hazardous waste cleanup projects across the Region, including active and closed steel mills in northwest Indiana and Ohio;

Cleaning up arsenic and other contamination from the Menominee River, resulting in an

ability to de-list the river as a Great Lakes Area of Concern.

As a Member of Congress, I have personally worked with Mike and have observed his endless dedication to the environment and to the hard-working employees of the EPA. Mike will be remembered for his important work protecting the environment in the region, for his leadership in AFGE Local 704, and for his support of the EPA and its wonderful staff. He will be missed.

IN HONOR OF THE 2018-2019 AAAA
STATE CHAMPIONS: THE CARVER
TIGERS GIRLS BASKETBALL
TEAM

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the undefeated 2018-2019 AAAA Girls Basketball Georgia State Champions, the George Washington Carver High School Tigers of Columbus, Georgia. The team commemorated this significant milestone on Sunday, March 17, 2019, with a celebratory parade followed by a celebration of honor at the Columbus Civic Center.

On Friday, March 8, 2019, the Tigers won the state championship game against the Spalding Jaguars by a score of 56-44. This historic victory marked the first championship and undefeated season for the Tigers after coming up short in three Final Fours and two state championships. The team placed No. 1 in the MaxPreps AAAA Girls Basketball rankings for Region 1 and have won all but two of their previous 31 games this season by double digits.

Their victory in this year's AAAA state championship follows years of frustration, hard work, and determination bursting forth into an unbelievable season of teamwork and athletic excellence. The perseverance of these Tigers, after coming so close the past two seasons, including a 68-67 overtime loss to in-town rival Columbus High in the 2017 finals, was shown this year in their exciting victory. Moreover, the team completed this spectacular season with an astonishing overall win-loss record of 33-0.

I cannot put into words the tremendous pride that the citizens of Columbus, and indeed the entire Second Congressional District, have in being able to call this outstanding team of athletes their own. They have accomplished an incredible feat, one that could not have been possible without the tireless leadership and encouragement from their head coach, Anson Hundley and his staff, as well as their families, classmates, and members of the community who believed in them and their ability to bring home a state championship title.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the more

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

than 730,000 people of Georgia's Second Congressional District in congratulating and honoring these hardworking young women who have persevered, sacrificed, and achieved the pinnacle of success in basketball—the Georgia AAAA State Championship title.

HONORING MR. RAFAEL B. CRUZ
ON HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize my constituent, Mr. Rafael B. Cruz for his 80th birthday on March 22nd. A man of strong faith and uncompromising willpower, Rafael embodies the meaning of persistence, and serves as a leading example of what the American Dream can look like with enough hard work and an unwavering belief in the prospect of liberty.

Born in Cuba under the oppressive Batista regime, Rafael experienced assault and imprisonment as a teenager for taking an active stance against the injustices he witnessed. In search of a better life, he left his home at the age of eighteen to pursue a degree in higher education, and arrived in Austin, Texas where he studied Mathematics and Chemical Engineering. While in school, he worked seven days a week for fifty cents an hour until he obtained his degree in 1961. In addition to his obligations as a student, Rafael maintained strong ties with his community in Cuba and advocated against the abuses of the newly empowered Castro forces.

A family man by the early 1960s, Rafael balanced his new career in the energy industry with raising two daughters and his son, current Texas Senator, TED CRUZ. Rafael moved to Houston with his family to work and found a lasting home in the state Texas. Today, he resides in my district, in the City of Carrollton, where he is a pastor, a supportive father and grandfather, and an exemplary member of our community.

Madam Speaker, it is a pleasure to recognize the inspiring life story of Rafael Cruz, who has fought for freedom, family and faith for all of his life, and whose contributions to our country will continue to make a mark on the character of our American spirit. I ask all of my distinguished colleagues to join me in wishing a very happy 80th birthday to Mr. Rafael Cruz.

CONGRATULATING MR. MATTHEW
ANTHONY OF CARBON COUNTY

HON. DANIEL MEUSER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and congratulate Mr. Matthew Anthony of Palmerton, Pennsylvania. Matthew proudly represented Carbon County at the North American Special Olympics in Las Vegas, Nevada, and was named the Special Olympics North American Unified Gold Medalist in bowling.

Matthew competes with his father, Christopher, and they are the first Special Olympics unified team from Carbon County, as well as the first bowling team from our area to make it to the national competition.

Matthew has been actively involved with the Special Olympics since the Carbon County delegation was established fourteen years ago and has competed in a variety of different sports in addition to bowling, including floor hockey, track and field and bocce. Matthew is a strong competitor and a positive voice for all members of the vibrant Special Olympics community and the constituents of Pennsylvania's Ninth Congressional District.

In his free time, Matthew works at his family business in Palmerton, plays video games, and enjoys restoring his 1987 Oldsmobile Custom Cruiser Wood Panel Station Wagon. Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives join me in congratulating Matthew for his many achievements and outstanding legacy of continued sportsmanship and wish him continued success in all his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
REUEL WALTERS

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize World War II veteran Reuel Walters for his service to the United States of America.

Reuel was born at home in Livingston, Texas on January 16, 1925. A midwife attended to his mother. One of six children, at the age of eighteen, Reuel was drafted and courageously answered the call to serve and defend his country in the United States Army. Reuel completed his basic training in San Antonio, Texas and deployed as a radio control repairman.

From 1941 to 1945, Reuel served in the Solomon Islands, Bougainville Island, Sipan Island and Guam. He saw the Enola Gay before it dropped the bomb on Hiroshima, Japan. Reuel was in Guam when he heard the announcement over a loudspeaker that the war had ended.

After his time in the service, Reuel worked as a lineman for thirty-six years at Houston Line & Power. In 1985, he retired and moved to Livingston, Texas.

Madam Speaker, it is because of the sacrifices made by men and women like Reuel Walters that we are able to enjoy the freedoms that we hold so dear. Let us not forget this great generation. We thank Reuel for the contributions he has made to preserve our liberty.

IN HONOR OF EDWARD STEVER'S
100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Edward Stever and wish him a very happy 100th birthday.

The attack on Pearl Harbor was an event that not only shaped the course of our country but the lives of many Americans, including Mr. Stever. After Pearl Harbor was attacked he was one of the many Americans who felt compelled to fight against the Japanese. He then joined the Army Air Corps where he served until 1946. During his career he completed countless dangerous, yet vital, missions delivering bombs and fuel from India to China. He showed endless bravery and courage in his pursuit to serve our country halfway across the world.

After completing active duty, Mr. Stever returned to his wife and two children and worked for IBM in Binghamton, New York until he was transferred to Charlotte, North Carolina. In 2007, he moved to Fayetteville and unfortunately lost his wife after 69 years of marriage. Despite his loss he still felt compelled to serve our country and he has been volunteering at the U.S. Army Airborne and Special Operations Museum, since 2011. In fact, he has dedicated over 2,400 hours to the Museum. I know I speak for everyone when I say we are so thankful for him and all of his service to our country and community.

The U.S. Army Airborne and Special Operations Museum had a goal of collecting 100 birthday cards for Mr. Stever's birthday. I am honored to play a small part in recognizing him and all he has accomplished over the last 100 years.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in thanking Mr. Edward Stever for his service and wishing him a Happy 100th birthday.

THANKING CHIEF BILL JOHN
BAKER

HON. KEVIN HERN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank Chief Bill John Baker for his many years of service to the Cherokee people and to his community. Chief Baker's service to the Cherokee Nation and the state of Oklahoma has touched the lives of many, whether acting in the capacity of Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation, as a Cherokee Tribal Councilor, as PTA President, as President of the Tahlequah Chamber of Commerce, or as the coach of local youth sports teams.

Personally, my wife Tammy and I can attest to Chief Bill John Baker's dedication to community by our mutual involvement in the Ronald McDonald House Charities. When we first moved to Muskogee Oklahoma, Tammy called Chief Baker to bring his attention to the Cherokee Nation women's use of the Ronald McDonald House—roughly 1/3rd of the House's inhabitants are Cherokee citizens. Without hesitation, Chief Baker stepped up to the plate and asked—how much money does Ronald McDonald House need?

Chief Baker's accomplishments have been heralded by his colleagues and neighbors alike. The town of Okay is grateful for the Veterans Monument project that Chief Baker spearheaded. People recall the countless times that he expedited housing assistance for disabled and elderly Cherokee citizens. Chief Baker's friends, neighbors, and those who

may not have had the pleasure of knowing him will benefit for years to come because of the extra first response vehicles that he helped secure for the Fire Department and the drivers education cars that he worked to provide for the local schools.

All these amazing things that Chief Bill John Baker had a hand in, ultimately help raise awareness of the Cherokee people and their presence in Northeastern Oklahoma. I congratulate Chief Baker on his retirement, as it is well deserved.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF HENRY P. "CORKY" ANDERSON III

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Henry P. "Corky" Anderson III who passed away on February 23, 2019 at the age of 76. A lifelong Tulare County resident, Corky, as he was affectionately known, was a renowned trailblazer in the pistachio industry.

Corky's passion for farming began at age 13 when he spent his days hauling hay for nearby farms, and as the years went on he mastered his craft while working up and down the Pacific coast throughout California and Oregon. Corky was also a problem solver. The California pistachio industry has historically suffered due to a soil-borne fungus known as verticillium wilt that kills thousands of trees each year before they are mature enough for commercial production. Along with his business partner Ken Puryear, Corky developed a pistachio rootstock resistant to verticillium wilt. This development was nothing short of revolutionary, and California's current status as the largest pistachio producer in the world can largely be attributed to his hard work.

But Corky was involved in much more than just pistachios. Ever the family man, he, along with his brother Doug Anderson and sister Debi Mitchell, founded AMA Pistachio Farming and AMA Properties where they grew everything from sugarbeets to cotton, invested in a gold mine in Oregon, and diversified into office building in Las Vegas and Arizona.

Corky is survived by his wife of 30 years, Betty Jean Anderson, and an entire family that loved him dearly. He will be remembered for his kindness, love of life, and passion for farming. I was fortunate enough to have known Corky for many years. He was an exceptional farmer and an even better friend. On behalf of California's 23rd Congressional District, I extend my deepest condolences to the Anderson family, and all of those whose lives Corky touched.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS VACANCY REDUCTION ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Courts Va-

cancy Reduction Act. This bill would allow local District of Columbia court nominees to be seated after a 30-day congressional review period unless a resolution of disapproval is enacted into law during that period. Currently, nominees cannot be seated without affirmative Senate approval. The congressional review process for nominees would be the same one used for legislation passed by the D.C. Council. It is therefore a reliable process, long-recognized by Congress. My bill is prompted by the unique requirement that judges for the local D.C. courts be confirmed by the Senate, where nominees for the federal courts, understandably, get the primary focus and priority. There is currently a vacancy crisis facing the District's criminal and civil courts, and the D.C. courts have raised serious concerns due to longstanding vacancies.

Whether Democrats or Republicans control the Senate, the local D.C. courts regularly face vacancy crises, which harm the operations of the judicial system in the District. Congress created the D.C. Judicial Nomination Commission (JNC) to recommend candidates, and Congress should generally defer to its judgment. This bill is a compromise, useful to all concerned, that retains a congressional role while saving the Senate time by removing the need for committee and floor action and increasing the odds that D.C. will have a full complement of local judges.

Currently, there are seven vacancies out of 62 authorized judges on the D.C. Superior Court and two vacancies out of nine authorized judges on the D.C. Court of Appeals.

Both pre- and post-home rule, the District has never had control over the nomination and approval of local D.C. judges. My bill would not alter the role of the JNC or the President in the nomination process. Under the Home Rule Act, the JNC recommends to the President a list of three persons for each vacancy on the Superior Court and Court of Appeals. The President must nominate a candidate recommended by the JNC within 60 days to the Senate for advice and consent. If the President fails to nominate such a person within 60 days, the JNC must nominate a recommended person directly to the Senate for advice and consent. The Senate has no obligation to provide its advice and consent. Under this bill, once a name has been transmitted to Congress, the nomination would be deemed approved unless a resolution of disapproval is enacted into law during a 30-legislative-day review period.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF RICHARD WADE

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to salute, honor and thank World War II veteran Richard Wade.

On February 5, 1924 Richard Wade, Jr. was born on an icy cold day to Richard and Mary Frances Wade. When he was only five weeks old, Richard's grandparents, David Kearney, an Irish immigrant, and his wife, Illa, began to raise him. Richard spent his childhood and teen years in Portland, Maine.

In January of 1942, Richard enlisted in the United States Navy. He trained in aviation radio at Naval Air Station Banana River, now called Patrick Air Force Base. He worked convoy coverage and submarine patrol and was a part of the Helicopter Development Squadron. While in service, he traveled to Brazil where he was stationed for three and a half months. Other assignments in Brazil took him to Aratu and Natal. In Natal, Richard worked the radio one night for so long that he became deaf and did not regain his hearing for two days. Richard received the American Theater Ribbon, World War II Victory Medal and Combat Air crewman Insignia.

While stationed in Corpus Christi, Texas, Richard received the news that the war had ended. He remembers the historic occasion and celebrating with his buddies. Richard worked for thirty years at Missouri Pacific Railroad as a truck driver. He retired and settled in Rye, Texas, and currently resides in Livingston, Texas.

We thank Richard Wade for responding to the call to protect and defend this great nation. His sacrifices exemplify why our nation remains "the land of the free and the home of the brave."

REMEMBERING THE LATE U.S. ARMY CAPTAIN ANTOINE LEWIS

HON. ROBIN L. KELLY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise to remember the late U.S. Army Captain Antoine Lewis of Matteson, IL in the Second Congressional District.

I was shocked and saddened to learn that Captain Lewis was among the 157 people killed in the tragic plane crash in Ethiopia on March 10th.

This incredible young man had so much more to give the world and constantly gave of himself to others. He possessed an irrepressible curiosity and a desire to make the world a better place.

Captain Lewis was a man of passionate commitment to his family, to the Matteson community, to our country, and to his faith.

An honorable man, he represented the very best of America whenever he served in uniform or wherever he traveled in the world.

Captain Lewis was a patriot who proudly served his country. He had been stationed in Afghanistan, South Korea and Canada. He had an adventuresome and free spirit and was filled with wonder and curiosity about other people and cultures.

While he was raised in Matteson, he belonged to the world.

He, like many others, went to Africa to offer hope and opportunity to others through mission work. As called to do by St. James, he put his faith into actions and deeds that uplifted others and worked to build a better world.

The entire Second District mourn this tremendous loss to our community.

As we grieve with his family and friends, we are comforted by the knowledge that he did fulfill his desire to make the world a better place—by the love he gave to every person and mission that he encountered.

HONORING MS. MELISSA ANTINOFF ON BEING NAMED BURLINGTON COUNTY'S TEACHER OF THE YEAR BY THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

HON. ANDY KIM

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. KIM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Melissa Antinoff, a devoted educator who has helped shape the minds of New Jersey's youth throughout her 19 years as a public school teacher. Ms. Antinoff was recently named Burlington County's Teacher of the Year by the New Jersey Department of Education for her tireless work as a 3rd grade teacher at Ashbrook Elementary School.

Passionate from an early age about working with and educating children, Ms. Antinoff has developed a classroom environment that fosters innovation, creativity, and self-confidence within her students. Ms. Antinoff recognizes the importance of reading to developing a child's sense of confidence and therefore strongly encourages independent reading in her classroom. She credits this practice with instilling in her students greater self-esteem and willingness to take risks in their other areas of study. Ms. Antinoff's colleagues praise her for her ingenious ability to integrate interdisciplinary elements, such as music, into her classroom as well as her eagerness to take risks in her instruction methods including granting her students the independence to work and learn collaboratively in small groups.

Ms. Antinoff is a prime example of the kind of teacher who goes above and beyond to ensure that the well-being of the entire student, including his or her emotional and mental needs are attended to just as much as his or her academic needs. Above all else, she wants her students to have the confidence to enjoy school and feel safe and secure there so that they can learn and grow creatively. For these reasons, I am proud to honor Ms. Antinoff for her efforts and sincerely thank her for the positive influence she has had on countless students throughout her distinguished career.

RECOGNIZING BEN FERENCZ

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Ben Ferencz. Ben is the last living Nuremberg prosecutor and is also celebrating his 100th Birthday.

Born in Transylvania in 1920, Ben immigrated to the United States and attended public schools in New York. He won a scholarship to Harvard Law School where he worked as a research assistant for a professor writing a book on war crimes. He received his degree in 1943 and promptly joined the U.S. Army as a private in the artillery. He was awarded five battle stars for not being killed or wounded at Normandy Beach and every major campaign in Europe.

As the war was ending, he was transferred to General Patton's HQ to serve as a war

crimes investigator. He entered many Nazi concentration camps as they were liberated and the horrors he saw made an indelible impression. When he returned home, he was recruited by General Telford Taylor to return to Germany to help in the additional war crimes trials.

He was appointed Chief Prosecutor in what was aptly described as the biggest murder trial in history—the "Einsatzgruppen case." All 22 defendants, including six SS Generals, were convicted of murdering over a million innocent men, women, and children. Ben was 27 years old and it was his first case.

Since then, Ben has dedicated much of his life to seeking compensation for victims and trying to prevent illegal war-making. He became a self-appointed personal lobbyist for peace, with countless lectures, publications, and speeches at many universities and in countries around the world.

Madam Speaker, today I am pleased to honor Mr. Ben Ferencz and his service to his country, his community, and the world. Happy Birthday to Ben.

**RECOGNIZING DR. ROBERT DANN
ON HIS RETIREMENT**

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Robert Dann, a beloved family man, a pillar of his community, and a lauded veterinarian, in celebration of his recent retirement. A 1979 graduate of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, Dr. Dann shortly thereafter became an owner and director of Blum Animal Hospital, a mainstay of Chicago's Lakeview neighborhood. Over the course of four decades, Dr. Dann has served countless animals and their owners from across the city, seeing firsthand time and again the power for good that pets can be. After transitioning from several roles within the Hospital to spend more time with his family, Dr. Dann has remained practicing until today.

Ever since I was a kid visiting the Lincoln Park Zoo for the first time, a love for animals has been a through-line of my entire life. Since coming to Congress, I've had the privilege of defending endangered species and working on key animal protection issues; however, I've never forgotten just how much joy my family's own furry friend, our dog Scout, has brought us over the years.

Without caring and committed veterinarians like Dr. Dann, millions of pet owners across the country just like myself would not have the same happy memories that I do. Dr. Dann's work has been repeatedly recognized, including when he was named one of Chicago's top veterinarians. Beyond his contributions to the city's canine and feline populations, Dr. Dann has remained engaged in his community, sitting on the boards of two charitable foundations. Through his decades-long commitment to the veterinary medicine profession, and his work to support others in his community, Dr. Dann truly embodies the best of our neighborhoods and our city.

I thoroughly congratulate Dr. Dann on his forty-year career, on behalf of myself and the

thousands of animals he has cared for along the way.

HONORING MS. DELINA RODRIGUES OF CARBON COUNTY

HON. DANIEL MEUSER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Ms. Delina Rodrigues of Carbon County, who represented the United States at the Special Olympics World Games in the United Arab Emirates. Delina took home three medals from the games: a bronze medal in the bench press competition and two gold medals in the deadlift and overall lifting events.

Delina's success at the Special Olympics is the result of her many years of hard work and dedication to power lifting and track and field events. Having competed in various sports for Carbon County's Special Olympics Organization for fourteen years, she continues to exhibit great mental strength, athletic skill, and sportsmanship as she competes on the global stage.

In addition to her outstanding athletic accomplishments, Delina is also a graduate of Carbon County Technical Institute. She is a great representation of the values we hold dear in Pennsylvania's Ninth District: courage, enthusiasm, and perseverance.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives join me in celebrating Delina's remarkable achievements and wishing her continued success in all her future endeavors and competitions.

HONORING LYNDA RESNICK FOR RECEIVING THE BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE FOUNDATION INDIVIDUAL PHILANTHROPIST OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Mrs. Lynda Resnick as the recipient of the 2019 Bakersfield College Foundation Individual Philanthropist of the Year Award.

Lynda is the vice-chair and co-owner of The Wonderful Company, a global powerhouse known for its iconic brands like Wonderful Pistachios, Wonderful Halos, POM Wonderful, and FIJI Water, among many others.

An exceptional marketer, Lynda dropped out of college at the age of 19 to open her own advertisement agency. It was there that she met Stewart Resnick, who initially sought her services as a client for his janitorial business. The two later married and purchased a parcel of California Central Valley farmland in 1978, and the rest is history. Today, Lynda oversees worldwide marketing operations for the Wonderful Company, and is renowned for the creativity and innovation she brings to the company. Under her supervision, the Wonderful Company developed a rich culture of giving back to the community. On average, the

Resnicks contribute \$50 million annually to life-changing initiatives like community development efforts, educational programs, and the Wonderful Health and Wellness initiative, which Lynda directly oversees.

Lynda's philanthropic efforts extend well beyond the company. She was recently honored as a Life Trustee for her donations to, and service as a Board of Trustees member on the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. Additionally, she is an executive board member of the Aspen Institute's board of trustees, and contributed over \$30 million to establish the Resnick Sustainability Institute at the California Institute of Technology.

Lynda's lifetime of philanthropy, and generous contributions to the communities where Wonderful operates, deserve our recognition and gratitude. The Bakersfield College Foundation Sterling Silver Medal recognizes Lynda's many achievements, and I want to thank her for her tireless leadership and devotion to the communities and citizens of the Central Valley.

CELEBRATING THE INVESTITURE
OF DR. LILY D. MCNAIR, 8TH
PRESIDENT OF TUSKEGEE UNI-
VERSITY

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Inaugural Convocation and Investiture of Dr. Lily D. McNair as the 8th President of Tuskegee University and the first woman to ever serve as President in the University's storied 136-year history. Prior to her appointment at Tuskegee, Dr. McNair served for nearly seven years as provost and senior vice academic for affairs at Wagner College—a private college of 2,200 students located in Staten Island, New York.

Dr. McNair grew up in Browns Mills, New Jersey and is the eldest of four children. She is the daughter of a Japanese seamstress and an African American veteran who worked as a payroll clerk after serving in the Korean War.

Unlike many of her friends at other schools, Dr. McNair was lucky to have a high school guidance counselor who encouraged her, an aspiring first-generation college student with scarce financial resources, to apply to the Ivy League university she had dreamed of attending since she was a little girl. Because of her own experience, Dr. McNair believes in the value of mentorship and has placed a special emphasis on working with students and faculty to advance their goals.

Dr. McNair was the first in her family to attend college, and among the first African American women to attend Princeton University just six years after the university began admitting women. Dr. McNair earned her bachelor's degree in psychology in 1979, and master and doctorate degrees in psychology from the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

Dr. McNair served as associate professor of psychology and associate director of the Clinical Psychology Doctoral Training Program at The University of Georgia, where in 1999 she was the first African American woman to ob-

tain tenure and promotion in the psychology department. Dr. McNair's career in higher education also includes other appointments at the State University of New York at New Paltz, Vassar College and Spelman College. At Spelman, Dr. McNair was responsible for cultivating the institution's research capabilities, worked to strengthen faculty involvement in research and improve the efficiency of research resources.

Dr. McNair's upbringing in a working-class family and her public school background deeply influenced her philosophy on higher education, as she has sought to elevate and open doors of opportunity for minorities in academia. While at the University of Georgia, she was actively involved in increasing the numbers of African American psychology graduate students. Likewise, as the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Wagner College, Dr. McNair helped increase the diversity of hired faculty by over 115 percent.

A clinical psychologist by training, Dr. McNair's research has focused on the development and evaluation of community-based interventions that target substance abuse and early sexual behavior in African American youth. Preliminary findings of her longitudinal studies demonstrate the significant impact of positive parenting practices on children's outcomes across a variety of domains.

In addition to her numerous academic accomplishments, Dr. McNair is a dedicated mother to Randall and Marguerite Roberts, and wife of Dr. George W. Roberts, a retired senior administrator at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

On a personal note, I am proud to know Dr. McNair as a fellow graduate of Princeton University. She is a devoted administrator, committed public servant, inspirational figure, tireless educator, loving wife and proud mother. I know Dr. McNair will be an exemplary president of this esteemed institution, bringing to the position a keen intellect, strong advocacy abilities, steadfast work ethic and deep faith in God and the power of Mother Tuskegee. I look forward to continuing to work with Dr. McNair in her new position to bring more resources and greater opportunities to Tuskegee University. I gladly wish her well in her new endeavors.

On behalf of the 7th Congressional District and the State of Alabama, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the inauguration of Dr. Lily D. McNair as the 8th President of Tuskegee University and as the first woman to ever hold the position. I am honored to pay tribute to Dr. McNair for her tireless service and for the stellar and positive leadership she will surely continue to provide for all those who are a part of the Tuskegee University family.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE NA-
TIONAL COMMUNITY DEVELOP-
MENT ASSOCIATION'S 50TH ANNI-
VERSARY

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary

of the National Community Development Association (NCDA). Since its genesis in 1969, the NCDA has been a pillar of support for cities and counties across the country, including the Fifth Congressional District of Missouri.

The NCDA is a nonpartisan, national, non-profit organization that was established to assist cities across the nation in administering the new U.S. Housing and Urban Development funds and programs created through President Johnson's Model Cities Program. In doing so, they rose to help address the great disparities in housing options and opportunities that had created racial and socioeconomic inequality in many of our great American cities.

The NCDA represents cities on a federal level for programs such as the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships, among a myriad of others. Specifically, the NCDA has fought to improve local infrastructure and provide greater accessibility to safe, decent, and affordable housing, as well as greater economic opportunities. Through these initiatives, the organization has expressed a commitment to providing tangible services that will strengthen both families and communities across the country. Through the NCDA's prestigious John Sasso Award and Audrey Nelson Award for Best Practices in Community Development, they annually recognize and celebrate significant contributions and solutions to affordable and alternative housing projects through federal grants.

Moreover, as an integral part of the NCDA model, they respect diversity and inclusion in leadership as a fundamental part of effective leadership. Throughout their fifty years of service, the organization sought to represent diversified backgrounds and individualized expertise. They continue to include a wide variety of organizations and individual voices as we collectively search for solutions to urban difficulties and discover ways to implement greater equity in housing as time moves forward. These voices are brought to national attention each year at the National Community Development Week hosted by the NCDA. This annual conference educates Members of Congress on the achievements of federal programs like HOME and CDBG so that these programs can continue to address a need for affordable housing and community development.

Today, NCDA membership has grown to include over 400 separate cities and counties. The organizations and governments represented across that vast membership continue to carry out a centralized goal and purpose. As they have been since day one, the NCDA continues to serve as a united, national institution to provide services and support for local governments and policy makers as they work on critical federal community development and housing programs.

Madam Speaker, please join with Missouri's Fifth Congressional District in honoring the National Community Development Association for their remarkable achievements over the span of fifty years across the nation and in our own community. We stand to celebrate their indelible mark on our society.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SARDUL
SINGH SIHOTA**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Mr. COX, to honor the life of Sardul Singh Sihota, who passed away on March 5, 2019 at the age of 77. Throughout his life, Sardul was known for his contribution to the agriculture industry, his involvement with the Central Valley Sikh American community, and his role in establishing the first Sikh Temple in Selma, California.

Sardul was born on May 15, 1941 in Bara Pind, District Jalandhar, India to Assa Singh and Amar Kaur Singh. Sardul immigrated to Yuba City, California in 1961 to start a new chapter in his life and create a prosperous foundation for his family. Having been raised on a farm in India, Sardul moved to Selma, California, where he began to grow raisin grapes and continue his family's tradition of farming. Two years later, Sardul bought his first piece of property in Selma, which his family continues to live on today.

As one of the first Sikh Indians to live in Selma in the mid-1960s, Sardul had a desire to help other families immigrate to the Central Valley for a better life. He assisted many families by sharing his knowledge about the immigration process and acclimating to the life in the U.S. As a result, Selma became the new home to thousands of Sikh American families.

As the Sikh community continued to grow and flourish, Sardul noticed the lack of temples close by where families could worship, celebrate, and mourn. He worked with his friends to build Selma's first Sikh Temple in 1987.

Sardul is survived by his parents, his wife Jitendra, two daughters, Gurdeep Hebert and Harroop, and three sons, Paul, Simon, and Navjot, along with a host of extended family and friends.

Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that we ask our colleagues to join us in honoring the life of Sardul Singh Sihota and the great legacy that he leaves behind. Sardul will be remembered by his community for his generosity, hard work, and commitment to his friends and family. With all the relationships that he has forged along his journey, his memory will be forever remembered.

IN HONOR OF THE 2018-2019 STATE
CLASS A PUBLIC-SCHOOL CHAM-
PIONS: THE MARION COUNTY
LADY EAGLES BASKETBALL
TEAM**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2018-2019 Georgia State Class A Public-School Basketball Champions, the Marion County Lady Eagles of Buena Vista, Georgia. The team commemorated this significant milestone on Thursday, March 21, 2019, with a celebration of honor at Marion County High School in Buena Vista, Georgia.

On Wednesday, March 6, 2019, fans at the Macon Coliseum observed as the Lady Eagles won the state championship game against the Calhoun County Cougars by a score of 50-38. The Lady Eagles outrebounded their opponents (with a rebound total of 40-to-27) and made 21 of 30 free throws. This victory marked the end of an incredible year of hard work. The team has been ranked No. 1 for the entirety of the 2018-2019 season with an unbelievable 29-1 win-loss record. This championship game also marks a remarkable comeback for the Lady Eagles, who lost last year's game to the Greenville girls' basketball team by a score of 73-52.

The Lady Eagles' victory in this year's final exemplifies years of tireless determination which culminated into an inspiring season of teamwork and athletic excellence, counting a total of 1,910 points across 30 games. I am thrilled to honor this team as they celebrate the first girls' basketball state championship in the school's history. The senior class has been among the most successful ever, graduating with a winning record of 92-24.

I cannot put into words the tremendous pride that the citizens of Buena Vista, and indeed in the entire Second Congressional District, have in being able to call this outstanding team of athletes their own. They have accomplished an amazing feat, one that could not have been possible without the direction and inspiration of their coach, Fran McPherson, and her staff, as well as their families, classmates, and members of the community who believed in them and their ability to bring home a state championship title.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the more than 730,000 people of Georgia's Second Congressional District in congratulating and honoring these hardworking young women who have persevered, sacrificed, and achieved the pinnacle of success in basketball—the Georgia Class A State Championship title.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
MERDOLPH WALKER**HON. BRIAN BABIN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of World War II veteran, teacher, professional football player and rancher, Mr. Merdolph Walker.

Merdolph was born on a cold winter's night on January 16, 1923, in Soda, Texas. He was born in a small wooden house as sleet and snow fell outside. The midwife attending to his mother had to walk a mile home that night holding kindling for a light. The oldest of seven children, Merdolph attended Soda Grammar School, walking two miles to and from school each day.

While attending college at Sam Houston State University, Merdolph was drafted into the Army, serving from 1942 to 1946 as a combat engineer. Stationed in Guam during World War II, he received orders in his first week to search for land mines. Merdolph spent his next six weeks on open waters unloading cargo boats. There were no beds on-board, so he slept wherever he could find an

empty space. In one combat mission, gunfire was exchanged. Later, for seven months, Merdolph and other combat engineers would spend twelve hours a day building the runway used by the aircraft which dropped the atomic bomb and ended World War II. By that time, Merdolph was in Okinawa, Japan, where upon hearing shots fired and shouting, he and a buddy ran outside to learn the war had finally ended.

After returning to the states, Merdolph re-enrolled at Sam Houston College. He received his master's degree in administration, majored in physical education and minored in industrial arts. In 1948, he began a short career playing professional football in Pittsburg before deciding he could make more money teaching and coaching. Merdolph taught and coached for thirty-four years before retiring.

Madam Speaker, let us pause to honor this patriot who has faithfully, and humbly served our country, state and community.

RECOGNIZING MICHAEL T.
TIERNEY ON HIS RETIREMENT**HON. MIKE QUIGLEY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Michael T. Tierney on concluding a lengthy and illustrious career with the City of Chicago and with Plumbers Local 130 UA.

Mr. Tierney was born in 1955 to his parents, John (Jack), a former Union and City of Chicago Hoisting Engineer/Crane Operator, and Beverly Tierney. Mr. Tierney also has four siblings, Jack (Cheri), Marilyn (Bill) Haugh, Patti (Chuck) Adesso, and Brian.

Mr. Tierney began his career in 1975 as a laborer in the City of Chicago's Water Department; in 1986, he was promoted to Foreman, and just four years later, Mr. Tierney was again promoted, this time to District Foreman for the Department.

In 1995, Mr. Tierney became the Assistant Superintendent of Water Distribution, where he assisted the Superintendent in overseeing construction for the entire district. In this role, he had the opportunity to serve for six months as interim Superintendent for the Department. Shortly thereafter, Mr. Tierney officially took over as the District Superintendent of Water Distribution and Sewers for the City of Chicago.

In 2012 with more than thirty-five years of experience in his field, Mr. Tierney became the Director of Political and Municipal Affairs for Plumbers Local 130 UA, the same organization from which he earned his education in plumbing twenty-eight years prior. In this position, Mr. Tierney represented all Local 130 employees at the City, County and State levels. He also negotiated all Local 130 contracts for the City of Chicago and Cook County.

Mr. Tierney would be the first to tell you that his family is his first priority; they are the loves of his life. He has been married to his wife, Kathy McManus, since 2003. Mr. Tierney has two children; his daughter, Colleen Scarola, married to her husband, Matt, and Michael, married to his wife, Stephanie. He has four grandchildren, Benjamin, Olivia, Reagan, and Micaela, as well as one on the way in just a few weeks. I am pleased that his retirement

will offer him the opportunity to spend more quality time with those closest to him.

As Mr. Tierney retires from Plumbers Local 130 UA on March 31, 2019 after 30 years of service, I ask you to join me in recognizing his distinguished career.

HAPPY SESQUICENTENNIAL—CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF THE WEST POINT ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATES

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise to include in the RECORD an article by Keith J. Hamel honoring the 150th Anniversary of the West Point Association of Graduates.

"On May 22, 2019, the West Point Association of Graduates will turn 150 years old. Think about it—one hundred and fifty years! When "the Association," as it used to be known, held its first organizational meeting in the office of Dr. Horace Webster, Class of 1818, President of the College of the City of New York, the light bulb had yet to be invented; the telephone had not been patented; the U.S. flag had only 37 stars; and the machine gun, dynamite, and the torpedo were less than a decade old.

The year was 1869, an important year in the history of West Point graduates. On March 4 of that year, Ulysses S. Grant, Class of 1843, became the 18th President of the United States. Grant, of course, received national acclaim for commanding the Union Army to victory during the U.S. Civil War, accepting the surrender of Confederate forces from another West Point graduate, Robert E. Lee, Class of 1829. That recent conflict, roughly four years over by the time a handful of graduates met in Webster's office one Saturday afternoon for that first meeting, is often cited as the reason the "Association" was formed; that is, to heal the divide between West Point graduates who fought on opposing sides of the U.S. Civil War. While it may be romanticized, such a theory is plausible. After all, bridging chasms seemed to be the spirit of the age in 1869. On May 2 of that year the "golden spike" of the First Transcontinental Railroad was driven into the ground at Promontory Summit of Utah Territory, linking America's East Coast with its West Coast. Later that year, on November 17, the Suez Canal officially opened, finally completing a centuries-old idea to create a waterway between the Mediterranean and the Indian Ocean.

Yet when Robert Anderson, Class of 1825, wrote to Sylvanus Thayer, Class of 1808, on January 28, 1869 to propose the formation of "an association of the graduates of the Military Academy," he never mentioned the Civil War as a *raison d'être* for this endeavor (and Anderson was the officer in charge of Fort Sumter when it was fired upon by P. G. T. Beauregard, Class of 1838, to start that war!) Instead, Anderson plainly told Thayer he wanted to form an association "to see what should be done to perfect and perpetuate this truly national Institution." [West Point] and, in his February 12, 1869 reply to Anderson, Thayer agreed.

Three months later, 15 graduates gathered in Webster's office for the purposes of officially forming an "Association of the Graduates of the U.S. Military Academy." Neither the Civil War nor the "perpetuation" of West Point was explicitly mentioned in the

minutes from that meeting. Instead, the graduates present, including Anderson, passed seven resolutions, the last pertaining to the "fundamental principle that the characteristic of this Association shall be." According to the "Preliminary Meeting" minutes, Reverend Dr. Francis Vinton, Class of 1830, Assistant Minister of Trinity Church in New York City, introduced a resolution that the Association be "formed purely for the promotion of social and fraternal intercourse." Vinton's resolution became Article II of the new Association's Constitution: "The objects of this Association shall be to cherish the memories of our Alma Mater, and to promote the social intercourse and fraternal fellowship of its graduates."

Does this end the debate regarding the purpose of the Association of Graduates' founding? Not quite. Article IV of the Association's original Constitution complicates matters. It states, "Political, or any other discussions foreign to the purposes of the Association, as set forth in this Constitution, or any proceedings of such a tendency, are declared inimical to the purposes of this organization, and are prohibited." Such an article calls attention to itself and seems to support the notion that the recent U.S. Civil War and its political aftermath might impede the formation of an Association of West Point Graduates. Furthermore, Article III, paragraph 2, states, "The oldest graduate belonging to the Association shall be President; and in his absence the senior graduate present shall preside at the meeting of the Association." This made Thayer the Association's "official" first president. Although Thayer never attended a meeting of the Association of Graduates (and, interestingly, his name does not appear on the roll of members until 1872), this passage marries Thayer's legacy with the creation of the Association, including his desire to form such an organization for the benefit of West Point. Going forward, both implicit political matters and the promotion of West Point routinely enter into the dialogue regarding the Association's early history and business.

Take the Association's first public act after a committee of 13 graduates, chaired by Webster, met on June 16, 1869 and drafted the constitution and bylaws for the new Association. Soon after, the committee mailed the proposed constitution and bylaws to all graduates; 128 joined (of more than 1,350 living graduates), including three former Confederate officers: Richard S. Ewell, Class of 1840; James Longstreet, Class of 1842; and Nathaniel R. Chambliss, Class of May 1861. In fact, Ewell sent a letter back with his dues stating, "I cannot think that any graduate of the Academy would, unless blinded by prejudices, decline to aid the work of reuniting . . . a bond broken asunder by civil discord and war." Conversely, Simon Bolivar Buckner, Class of 1844, the first Confederate general to surrender an Army to Union forces, perhaps stinging from so-called "Radical Republicans" attempts to strip ex-rebels of their right to vote and hold office in the First Reconstruction Act (1867), wrote back to the committee saying, "Fraternal fellowship can exist only in the light of an acknowledged equality, [which] is denounced by the legislation of the central government which extends its fostering care to our class of graduates of our Alma Mater and at the same time prescribes the other . . . an acknowledgement of the inequality which renders agreeable social intercourse impossible." Buckner's sentiment becomes an important theme taken up by committee member Charles Davies, Class of 1815, in his address to graduates at the Association's first reunion on June 17, 1870.

Forty-three graduates sat in the pews of the West Point Chapel (now known as the

Old Cadet Chapel) to hear Davies' address. Although no Southern graduates attended that first open meeting (more likely due to the prohibitive cost of travel than to ideological allegiances), Davies used poetic language in his speech to delicately and diplomatically address the issue raised by Buckner, that is the seeming rift between graduates who fought on opposite sides of the U.S. Civil War. "We come together as the scattered members of a household after a long separation—some full of years, some full of honors," said Davies, recalling the metaphor of a "divided house" used by President Abraham Lincoln in a famous 1858 speech. Why would Davies use such language? The answer is reunification. But, digging deeper, it is not just a reunification of graduates from the North and the South; it is a reunification between West Point graduates and the United States of America. Just one sentence prior, Davies said, "We come together under the old flag, dear to every American heart, to recall and contemplate that springtime of life . . ." In this and his future reunion addresses, Davies continually uses a "reunification with the country" theme to tacitly unite graduates from the North and from the South behind a single purpose.

"We meet to revive cherished memories . . . and to renew, together, vows of perpetual allegiance to our country," Davies said in the opening to his 1870 address. As noted by George Pappas in his book *To the Point: The United States Military Academy 1802-1902*, "The defection of southern cadets and graduates, termed treason by many antagonists, was used as a stepping-stone for criticizing West Point in general and its graduates in particular." The Civil War thrust West Point and its graduates, particularly those who defected to fight for the Confederate cause, into the national spotlight, and, as noted by Harry Williams in his article "The Attack Upon West Point During the Civil War," ". . . the [Academy] faced and weathered a series of dangerous attacks designed to destroy its existence."

Those who gathered in those early reunions must have been aware that West Point stood on precarious footing in the years immediately following the Civil War, as well as the distrust felt for Southern graduates. In his address at the Second Annual Reunion on June 17, 1871, Davies' concluding words seem to be as much for the graduates as for a public he felt may still be wary of the future political intentions of West Point alumni "But above all, fellow graduates," Davies said, "let us remember that the nation which sustains and has spread its mantle over this institution, expects from every graduate, at all times, and wheresoever he may be, the full measure of his duty." Then in his last (and longest) address to graduates, commemorating the centennial of the Battle of Bunker Hill (1875), Davies made his most overt gesture to reunification between graduates from the North and South via renewed allegiance to the nation. He began by reminding graduates of the resolution passed at the annual meeting a year earlier to invite graduates from "all sections of the country" to the 1875 reunion. Seven of the Association's 12 former Confederate officer members attended this reunion, the most ever up to that point. "[W]e have come here today, to bury within the circuit of these mountains all recollections which can separate us from each other, or from our common country," Davies said, ". . . and to say to all, for each, and to each for all, that from this auspicious day, all the graduates of this Institution will recognize each other as friends. Henceforth, and forever, we have one flag—one country—one destiny."

Interestingly, before championing the patriotism of West Point graduates, Davies

lauded the accomplishments of West Point itself through its graduates. "We behold, also, a great Institution," he said in his 1875 address, "... scattering science and knowledge over the nation," which seems to pay homage to Thayer and Anderson's original aim for the Association, "to see what should be done to perfect and perpetuate this truly national Institution." Davies died in 1876, and, according to David Pinder '86, in his paper "The Association of Graduates of the U.S. Military Academy, 1869-1902: The Healing Years," the leadership of the AOG passed to George Cullum, Class of 1833. One of the original 15 members of the Association, Cullum became a member of AOG's Executive Committee in 1871 and chaired this committee until his death in 1892. A year before those 15 grads met in Webster's office to form the Association, Cullum published the first edition of his three-volume Biographical Register of the Officers of the United States Military Academy, which he described in its preface as a record of West Point graduates' service to the nation so as to give "world-renown to their Alma Mater." In the preface to his third edition of the Register, published in 1891, Cullum's intent became more explicit. There he wrote that he hoped "this last legacy to Alma Mater and her numerous sons may further prove the usefulness of that noble national institution," nearly echoing Thayer and Anderson's original aim for the Association. While reunification seemed to be Davies' primary ambition, championing the accomplishments of graduates for the glory of West Point was clearly the achievement for which Cullum was known. In fact, at that first meeting in 1870, the first order of business after approving the constitution and by-laws was adopting a resolution that gave thanks to Cullum "for his truthful and admirable annals of the Military Academy and its Graduates."

Cullum demonstrated his philosophy for West Point and its graduates in the biographies he wrote for "Necrology," that section of the Association's published annual report identifying the graduates who had died since the last meeting. In the 1871 Annual Reunion, the first to acknowledge the author of each graduate's biography, Cullum is cited as having written five of them, the first being for Ethan Allen Hitchcock, Class of 1817. And while other authors devoted paragraphs to the deceased, Cullum wrote pages (Hitchcock's biography is 10 pages long). Cullum continued writing "Necrology" biographies right up until his own death, the last one for Montgomery C. Meigs, Class of 1836, who died January 2, 1892. Cullum himself died February 28 of that year, and his own "Necrology" biography appears just six pages after Meigs'.

Cullum had started writing an extended biography of Thayer for the 1873 Annual Reunion, but, according to a Secretary note in that record, Cullum's absence in Europe prevented the completion of it in time for publication. Ten years later, Cullum likely incorporated portions of that biography into the momentous address he delivered at the unveiling of the Thayer Statue on June 11, 1883, touting Thayer's impact on West Point and the nation. Consider this passage: "With each evolving year of Colonel Thayer's Superintendency, class after class was graduated, adding to our army 570 officers, of whom the nation may be justly proud, for in that galaxy are many bright particular stars which have given lustre to our arms, illuminated the paths of science, brightened halls of learning, and adorned various vocations of usefulness." Cullum was perpetuating the national institution of West Point by demonstrating the perfections of its honorific father. But this is not all that Cullum did as the Association's de facto leader.

Cullum had been Chairman of the Thayer Monument Committee, which was established at the June 12, 1873 annual meeting, and was instrumental in bringing Thayer's remains from his hometown of South Braintree, Massachusetts to West Point. This accomplishment could be viewed as the Association's first official act of external business (a year earlier the Executive Committee resolved to have the body of Joseph Swift, Class of 1802, exhumed and re-interred at the West Point Cemetery, but this ambition never materialized). Thayer's remains were re-interred at West Point on November 8, 1877, but the monument intended to honor his memory remained unfinished, as only \$1,225 of an anticipated \$3,100 had been raised from graduates. At the 10th Annual Reunion on June 12, 1879, feeling that the plans to obtain funds to build a stone memorial of Thayer for placement on the Plain were "impractical," Cullum proposed that a smaller monument be built over Thayer's grave. However, in his address at that reunion, Cullum's classmate Francis H. Smith, Class of 1833, the first Southern graduate to speak before AOG members, implored graduates not to forget the original monument plan, saying, "He was a noble specimen of West Point character, and I trust the scheme will not be abandoned of putting, in enduring marble or bronze, a colossal statue of Brvt. Brig. Gen. Sylvanus Thayer, the father of the U.S. Military Academy."

A year later, at the 11th Annual Reunion, George Andrews, Class of 1851, Treasurer of the Thayer Monument Fund, reported that all but \$160 of the funds needed for the monument remained uncollected. The project was further delayed when the committee hired the New England Granite Company "to execute a statue eight feet three inches high, standing upon a well-proportioned pedestal of eight feet, both of pure white granite," and the cost jumped to \$4,000. To raise money to cover the escalating cost, Cullum reportedly addressed "personal letters to each living graduate who has a diploma signed by General Thayer." In his June 10, 1882 Thayer Monument Committee report to AOG's Executive Committee, Cullum noted that the statue would be ready by winter, "in ample time to be erected before the Reunion of this Association in June 1883" (it was completed on June 9, 1883, which would have been Thayer's 98th birthday). At the 14th Annual Reunion on June 12, 1883, Cullum furnished a final report on the Thayer Monument to the Association, saying the statue "is worthy of the great Superintendent, whose majestic port [sic] and intellectual visage [it] so faithfully represents; and it is worthy of this Association which has preserved, amid so many difficulties, to raise such a memorial to the 'Father of the Military Academy.'" Showing its appreciation for Cullum's efforts to bring the Thayer Monument to fruition, the Executive Committee unanimously passed a resolution that thanked him for admirably performing his duties.

A year after erecting Thayer Monument, AOG moved on to its next order of major business, another project that took years to materialize and one that ultimately depended greatly on Cullum. At the 15th Annual Reunion in 1884, John S. McCalmont, Class of 1842, proposed that Congress should be petitioned to make an appropriation for the purposes of furnishing a hall for AOG use at West Point, given that the Association had received so many gifts of manuscripts, portraits, books, letters, and more and had no room to safely keep them or exhibit them. The matter was tabled and reintroduced three years later at the 1887 meeting, but members felt that the USMA Board of Visitors would have better luck securing the

funds from Congress for building such a hall than their resolution. "The Association of Graduates cannot raise the necessary money," Charles Braden, Class of 1869, AOG's Secretary at that time, flatly stated. Then, given the lack of reference to it in meeting notes, the Executive Committee seems to forget about this idea for a memorial hall for half a decade, but Cullum did not forget. Upon his death, Cullum bequeathed \$250,000 to the U.S. government for the purposes of erecting a such a hall at West Point.

According to a March 7, 1892 New York Times article reporting on his will, Cullum's gift, "Follow[ed] an idea which he had for some years entertained." Part of that idea likely involved Cullum's 1891 proposal that Executive Committee incorporate the Association under the laws of New York state. The committee unanimously adopted Cullum's proposal and filed a certificate of incorporation in November of that year. As some have hypothesized, Cullum proposed this idea because he had already made his estate plans, and, rather than gift his considerable fortune to what might be characterized as an informal fraternal club, he wanted to leave it to an organization with legitimacy and longevity. Furthermore, showing his prescience, Cullum explicitly stated in his will for the memorial hall to be built "at farthest within five years after my death" (perhaps because he witnessed no movement on an idea that originated in 1884!). Cullum's bequest was formally accepted by an act of Congress, and the architectural firm McKim, Mead & White was appointed in 1894 to design the building. Construction began in 1896, with the cornerstone being ceremoniously laid on April 15, and construction was completed on December 21, 1898. After it was furnished (Cullum also left \$20,000 in his will for this purpose), the hall was dedicated on June 12, 1900, the date of the 31st Annual Reunion. According to a July 1900 article by Charles Larned, Class of 1870, in Junior Munsey Magazine, "This hall is distinctly a monument to West Point and all that it stands for, given by a son of the Academy to his brother alumni and their well beloved mother; designed to commemorate their deeds, to preserve their names, and to bear witness to the enduring work of the foremost military school of the age."

Thirty-one years after its founding, the Association of the Graduates of the U.S. Military Academy had 473 members on its rolls, and those members now had a home at West Point. In his will, Cullum indicated that it was his desire that the gifted memorial hall be used for "the Assemblage and Dinners of the Association of Graduates of the United States Military Academy, and, if practicable, I wish that lodging accommodations should be provided in some part of it for the members of that Association while attending its annual reunions." Furthermore, they now had funds. Cullum's will also provided \$10,000 for "the current and necessary expenses" of the Association. This is the genesis of what is now known as the West Point Association of Graduates' "Long Gray Line Endowment." While Cullum was Chairman of AOG's Executive Committee, AOG's balance sheet consistently ran between \$1,000-\$1,500, but, thanks to his gift, it grew by 300 percent in one year.

At the turn of the 20th century the Association, now with a home and with funds, started to focus on growth and accountability. This began with two notable changes to the Association's Constitution and By-laws. First, in 1897, the Executive Committee decided that an elected graduate, rather than the oldest graduate, would serve as the Association's President, and voted accordingly to change Article III of the Constitution. They nominated George Greene, Class of 1823, to

be President, and he was unanimously elected (ironically, Greene was also the oldest graduate on the Association's membership roll). Then, at the 1900 Annual Reunion, the Executive Committee voted to amend the Bylaws so that initiation fees were reduced from a one-time \$10 payment to an initial \$2 fee with an additional \$1 paid each subsequent year for the next decade. The prorated fee cycle spurred growth in new membership. In 1898, only three graduates elected to pay the prescribed \$10 initiation fee; in 1902, more than 70 paid the new \$2 fee. New membership also fostered more graduate participation. In 1899, only seven members attended the 30th annual reunion, but in 1902 reportedly some 350 graduates returned to West Point for the annual alumni reunion.

During the dedication of Cullum Hall, Alexander S. Webb, Class of 1855, who was present in Webster's office at the original May 22, 1869 meeting, looked back on that historic day and gave a brief account of the organization of the Association. No records exist of his remarks, but it is easy to imagine he would have said that the 15 graduates who gathered to form an "Association of the Graduates of the U.S. Military Academy" would be proud that, 31 years later, their idea had figuratively and literally found a home, that more and more graduates were coming back to that home each year, and that the Association was continuing to promote the social intercourse and fraternal fellowship of USMA graduates."

**HONORING MR. BILL SMITH ON
BEING NAMED OCEAN COUNTY'S
TEACHER OF THE YEAR BY THE
NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION**

HON. ANDY KIM

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. KIM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Bill Smith, a dedicated and enthusiastic educator who has worked as a public school teacher for the past 11 years and was recently named Ocean County's Teacher of the Year by the New Jersey Department of Education for his work as a Social Studies teacher at Southern Regional Middle School.

Mr. Smith is a leader and a mentor in a classroom that values teacher-student collaboration, critical thinking, and character development. A product of the New Jersey public school system himself, his enthusiasm as an educator stems from a lifelong love of history and teaching. In his own words, Mr. Smith tries to make history come to life in his classroom in order to foster the same passion in his pupils. This, combined with his keen ability to build an exceptionally strong rapport with his students creates a dynamic and engaging classroom environment that has led to a notable score increase in interdisciplinary summative assessments among his classes. Recognizing the importance of a holistic education, Mr. Smith works vigorously to collaborate with the other teachers at Southern Regional to develop interdisciplinary educational opportunities.

A lifelong learner, Mr. Smith continuously explores new educational opportunities for himself as well. Combining his love of learning with a passion for travel, he has journeyed from Dallas where he studied President Kennedy to Scotland to study the Enlightenment.

A testament to his educational efforts, Mr. Smith has been published in academic, peer-reviewed journals as well as awarded various summer learning grants.

Perhaps the most telling testament to Mr. Smith's life and career, is the informal conversations with his students that reveal that deep admiration for their teacher as well as a genuine excitement for his class. Mr. Smith's work as an educator thus far serves as a great example to teachers throughout the country regarding the power of applying dynamic instruction and building strong, positive relationships with students. I thank Mr. Smith for his service to our nation's young people and congratulate him on his well-deserved recognition as Ocean County Teacher of the Year.

**RECOGNIZING SHAUN LIVINGSTON
FOR HIS CONTRIBUTION TO THE
PEORIA COMMUNITY**

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Shaun Livingston for his willingness to invest in the Peoria community where he grew up. Mr. Livingston is a 31-year-old point guard for the National Basketball Association's Golden State Warriors.

Mr. Livingston recently made a one-million-dollar donation to his elementary school, Concordia Lutheran School, in Peoria, Illinois. The veteran point guard's generosity will be put towards expanding the school. Specifically, the expansion will consist of a performance stage for band and theater, a renovated gym, new offices and locker rooms and a storm shelter. As a former athlete, I understand the amount of hard work and commitment it takes to have a career as successful as Mr. Livingston's. I am grateful for his passion to give back to the community and am confident his selfless actions will help provide young students with the opportunity to succeed. His leadership demonstrates to kids everywhere that they too can follow their ambitions and reach their goals.

Dedicated leaders like Mr. Shaun Livingston make me especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally thank Mr. Shaun Livingston on his investment in the Peoria community, and commend him on his kindness and generosity.

**RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
DAVID DACKE**

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express sincere gratitude to World War II veteran, husband, and father, Mr. David Dacke.

David was born on September 11, 1927 in Houston, Texas. He met the love of his life Letha at the age of six when his parents told him he was to walk the new little girl on the block to school for her first day. David took

her to class and showed her around, leading years later to their marriage. David learned to weld at the Parker Brother shipyard, a talent he would use in the Navy.

At the age of eighteen, David courageously answered the call to serve and defend his country. While in the Navy, he served on the USS *Evans* and swam in the beautiful blue waters of the Bikini Atoll before it later was the site of atomic bomb testing.

In 1947, David returned home from the Navy. When he left home, Miss Letha was a girl, but she had become a young lady by the time he returned. The two sweethearts were married on March 26, 1949. They had two children, Darrell and Diana. This year David and Letha will celebrate their 70th anniversary.

After the war, David worked as a welder building barges in a ship yard. He also was in the chicken business where he supplied eggs to Houston schools and businesses. David retired and moved to Livingston in 1993, where he and Mrs. Letha still reside.

David Dacke has demonstrated his dedication to the United States of America. It is with great admiration that I thank him for his selfless service to our country.

**IN HONOR OF THE 2018-2019 STATE
CLASS A PUBLIC-SCHOOL CHAMPIONS:
THE CALHOUN COUNTY
COUGARS BOYS BASKETBALL
TEAM**

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2018-2019 Class A Public-School Boys Basketball Georgia State Champions, the Calhoun County High School Cougars of Edison, Georgia. The team will commemorate this significant milestone with a celebratory parade on Friday, March 22, 2019 and a celebration of honor on Saturday, March 23, 2019.

On Wednesday, March 6, 2019, the Cougars won the state championship game against the Treutlen Vikings by a score of 69-67. This historic victory marked an undefeated season for the Cougars as well as their second state championship. The team also placed No. 1 in the MaxPreps Class A Basketball rankings for Region 1 and for the state of Georgia with a Region win-loss record of 19-0.

Their victory in this year's state championship follows years of frustration, hard work, and determination bursting forth into an incredible season of teamwork and athletic excellence. The perseverance of these Cougars was shown this year in their exciting victory. Moreover, the team completed this spectacular season with an astonishing overall win-loss record of 32-0.

I cannot put into words the tremendous pride that the citizens of Edison, and indeed the entire Second Congressional District, have in being able to call this outstanding team of athletes their own. They have accomplished an incredible feat, one that could not have been possible without the tireless leadership and encouragement from their head coach, Marcus Shaw, and his staff, as well as their families, classmates, and members of the

community who believed in them and their ability to bring home a state championship title.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the more than 730,000 people of Georgia's Second Congressional District in congratulating and honoring these hardworking young men who have persevered, sacrificed, and achieved the pinnacle of success in basketball—the Georgia Class A State Championship title.

HONORING THE GENERAL BAPTIST DEACONS ASSOCIATION

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the Greater Baptist Deacons Association (GBDA) for its outstanding spiritual work in the District of Columbia.

The GBDA has been an instrumental part of the faith community in the District for 100 years. The GBDA has supported spiritual development through meaningful Bible study, leadership training workshops, youth education opportunities and other community enrichment initiatives over the years. The GBDA has promoted social, economic and civic justice for all citizens and religious institutions.

In 1919, the GBDA was formed to unite the faith community across the Washington metro area, to more effectively spread Christian teachings and to provide quality community programs. In 1939, the members of the GBDA were instrumental in starting the National Baptist Deacons Convention, bringing together members of the spiritual community to better serve and strengthen the fellowship of churches.

The GBDA was instrumental in expanding spiritual leadership training across two dozen states and territories, providing a mechanism for spiritual leaders to share common experiences and offer support to various communities. Together with regional elected leaders, the GBDA helped raise awareness for national and social issues over the years, which led to changes in the nation's conscience.

The GBDA members and leaders have worked with various corporations and business entities to address issues such as homelessness, affordable housing and workers' rights. They have worked collaboratively with community partners on programs supporting civic, social and community development.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the General Baptist Deacon Association on its 100th year of service to the District of Columbia.

HONORING STEWART RESNICK FOR RECEIVING THE BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE FOUNDATION INDIVIDUAL PHILANTHROPIST OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Mr. Stewart

Resnick as the recipient of the 2019 Bakersfield College Foundation Individual Philanthropist of the Year Award.

Stewart is the chairman and president of The Wonderful Company, a multi-billion dollar global company known for its iconic brands like Wonderful Pistachios, Wonderful Halos, POM Wonderful, and FIJI Water, to name a few.

The Wonderful Company empire began in 1978 when Stewart and his wife Lynda Resnick purchased a parcel of California Central Valley farmland. Since then, Stewart has overseen all financial, legal, real estate, strategy, human resources, and business operations for the company. Under his guidance, Wonderful has become so successful that every year, nearly half of all American households purchase their products.

The Wonderful Company has continuously given back to the communities where its employees live and work—contributing an average of \$50 million annually to community development efforts, educational programs, and a comprehensive employee health and wellness program. Stewart has long been passionate about free market sustainability, and has made significant investments in sustainability research, including implementing advanced irrigation technologies, extensive solar installations at Wonderful facilities, and utilizing fuel cells to generate electricity without combustion or air pollution. Additionally, Stewart founded the Resnick Sustainability Institute at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech), which focuses on innovative science and engineering research to develop solutions to global energy challenges.

Even outside of The Wonderful Company, Stewart's philanthropy is far-reaching. Among his generous contributions are The Milken Institute's Lynda and Stewart Resnick Center for Public Health, the Stewart and Lynda Resnick Neuropsychiatric Hospital at the UCLA School of Medicine, the Resnick Program for Food Law & Policy at the UCLA School of Law, and the Lynda and Stewart Resnick Exhibition Pavilion at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

Stewart's generous philanthropic efforts make him a well-deserving recipient for the Bakersfield College Foundation Silver Medal, and I want to thank him for his many selfless contributions to the communities and citizens of the Central Valley.

RECOGNITION OF MAJOR SEAN M. DONOHUE

HON. DENNY HECK

OF WASHINGTON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. HECK. Madam Speaker, today I recognize Major Sean M. Donohue of the United States Army for his extraordinary dedication to duty and service to our Nation. Major Donohue will soon transition from his current assignment as an Army Congressional Liaison in the House of Representatives to serve as the Command Surgeon for the Center for Initial Military Training at the US Army Training and Doctrine Command. This unit is the largest charged with training all initial entry Soldiers in the Army.

A native of Tacoma, WA, Sean began his military career after graduating from the Uni-

versity of Puget Sound, enlisting after the 9/11 attacks as a medic in 2002. Sean was commissioned in 2009, completed his clinical training as a Physician Assistant at Fort Carson and promptly deployed to Afghanistan as a Battalion Surgeon with the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team. Since then, Sean has served in numerous leadership and staff positions around the world. His wife is a dedicated military spouse, Lexey, and they have three boys: William, Jack and Maximus.

In 2017, Army Medicine selected Major Donohue to serve as Legislative Liaison to serve in the Army House Liaison Office. In his role as a legislative liaison, Major Donohue served as the primary liaison between Members of the 115th and 116th Congresses, their Staff, Legislative Committees, and the U.S. Army. In this role, he planned, coordinated, and accompanied Congressional and Staff Delegations on numerous worldwide fact-finding and investigative missions and built the relationships and trust needed to increase the trust and confidence the U.S. Congress has in the U.S. Army.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the selfless service of Major Sean M. Donohue and his family as they proceed to the next chapter in his remarkable career as they continue to serve our great Nation.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHN HENRY HAGGINS

HON. BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN

OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of John Henry Haggins, who passed away recently at 102 years of age.

John was born in Raleigh, NC on February 15, 1917 to Dorsey McAllister and William Haggins. John grew up in Raleigh with seven siblings and first moved to his eventual home, Washington, D.C., in the 1930s, following his older brothers to find work.

His natural skill and ingenuity led John to a long and storied career in engineering and construction. He worked with C.W. Freitag Construction Co. and George Hyman (now Clark) Construction Co., moving to cities in West Virginia, South Carolina and New York throughout that career. While his time in West Virginia was spent doing some of the hardest work of his professional life, it was well worth the effort when he met his future wife, Lorene Epps. The pair were married on September 14, 1945 after a long courtship and remained together until John's passing, raising four children in the Northeast Washington, DC home that John would later build by hand.

After more than 30 years of hard and dedicated work, John retired from Clark Construction Co. as the Concrete Superintendent in 1987. He remained a member of the Operative Plasterers & Cement Masons, America's oldest building and construction trades international union.

Over the course of his 102 years, John and Lorene built a large and loving family that will continue to carry his legacy, including children Shirley, Phyllis Joann, Cynthia Jean, Pamala Francine, and John Anthony; five grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I send my condolences to the family and friends of John Haggins. I ask that my colleagues join me in commemorating his incredible life and legacy.

Rest in peace, John.

**CELEBRATION OF THE GI BILL'S
75TH ANNIVERSARY AND ITS AU-
THOR SENATOR ERNEST "MAC"
MCFARLAND**

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration and honor for the 75th anniversary of the GI Bill as well as the bill's co-author, the late Arizona Senator Ernest "Mac" McFarland. Officially titled the "Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944," the GI Bill provided a slew of benefits for veterans returning from World War II. These new benefits were available to every veteran who had been in active duty for ninety days and they continue to this day. The benefits bestowed onto our veterans include low-cost mortgages, low-interest loans, payments for tuition and living expenses to attend university college of vocational education and up to one year of unemployment compensation. With this bill, we've been able to offer a small token of our gratitude to those who put their lives on the line in order to defend everything we hold dear. The assistance cemented in the GI Bill is thanks, in large part, to the former Majority Leader from Arizona Ernest McFarland. Mac's accomplishments stretch far beyond his work on the GI Bill. As it stands today, he is the only person in Arizona's history to have served as U.S. Senator, Governor of Arizona and Chief Justice of the Arizona Supreme Court. He was a leader for our state and his tireless efforts enabled so many wonderful opportunities for our uniformed men and women. I am proud to honor this man and his diligent work for our veterans.

**CELEBRATING THE 20TH ANNIVER-
SARY OF READING AND BEYOND**

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the local non-profit organization Reading and Beyond of Fresno, California as it celebrates its 20th anniversary. Since its creation in 1999, Reading and Beyond has been a leader in the community, providing educational, health and wellness opportunities to underserved families of Fresno County. The impact Reading and Beyond has had over the past two decades continues to be felt by countless families in the Central Valley.

In the fall of 1998, members of the First Covenant Church called together leaders of the community to explore prospective solutions to help neighborhood students struggling with reading. Reading and Beyond was founded with the belief that a child's path toward a brighter future was paved with books. Initially, Reading and Beyond provided tutoring and

parenting programs for 30 families in need. Eventually, it expanded to include cradle-to-career services for both children and their parents, health services and tailored programs to help families increase their social mobility and strive for success and self-reliance.

Since its founding, Reading and Beyond has earned many honors both locally and nationally. In 2003, Fresno Unified School District praised Reading and Beyond as a "model for other organizations". In the same year, it was chosen as one of only four organizations to receive national funding from the U.S. Department of Education to develop its Early Childhood Education program into a replicable model. In 2008, Kerri Briggs, the U.S. Department of Education Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education, recognized Reading and Beyond as a "remarkable example of the impact that faith-based organizations have in a community". In 2015, the U.S. Department of Agriculture awarded \$12 million dollars in pilot funding to Reading and Beyond's Fresno Bridge Academy program; one of only ten national projects to receive this grant.

What started out as a community-led effort to help neighborhood children in Fresno develop their reading abilities, has evolved into an organization that serves the needs of children and families across seven counties in California. Reading and Beyond has committed to empowering families to achieve productive lives through its holistic, research, and results-based programs with the end goal of helping children succeed.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Reading and Beyond as it celebrates twenty outstanding years. Our community is forever grateful for the contributions Reading and Beyond has made in the Central Valley. I ask that you join me in wishing Reading and Beyond long-lasting success.

**IN HONOR OF THE 2018-2019 AAAA
STATE CHAMPIONS: THE CARVER
TIGERS BOYS BASKETBALL
TEAM**

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2018-2019 AAAA Boys Basketball Georgia State Champions, the George Washington Carver High School Tigers of Columbus, Georgia. The team commemorated this significant milestone on Sunday, March 17, 2019, with a celebratory parade followed by a celebration of honor at the Columbus Civic Center.

On Friday, March 8, 2019, the Tigers won the state championship game against Americus-Sumter High School by a score of 58-55. This was the fifth game of the season against the Americus-Sumter Panthers and it was an exciting end to their series. The Tigers took the lead for a second and final time in the game with 28 seconds left. This historic victory marked the first championship for the Tigers since 1971.

Their victory in this year's AAAA state championship follows years of frustration, hard work, and determination bursting forth into an unbelievable season of teamwork and athletic

excellence. The perseverance of these Tigers, after placing No. 3 in the MaxPreps AAAA Boys Basketball rankings for Region 1, was clearly shown by a spectacular season.

I cannot put into words the tremendous pride that the citizens of Columbus, and indeed the entire Second Congressional District, have in being able to call this outstanding team of athletes their own. They have accomplished an incredible feat, one that could not have been possible without the tireless leadership and encouragement from their head coach, Warren Beulah and his staff, as well as their families, classmates, and members of the community who believed in them and their ability to bring home a state championship title.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the more than 730,000 people of Georgia's Second Congressional District in congratulating and honoring these hardworking young men who have persevered, sacrificed, and achieved the pinnacle of success in basketball—the Georgia AAAA State Championship title.

**HONORING AERA ENERGY FOR RE-
CEIVING THE BAKERSFIELD COL-
LEGE FOUNDATION CORPORATE
PHILANTHROPIST OF THE YEAR
AWARD**

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Aera Energy, and President and CEO, Christina Sistrunk, as the recipient of the 2019 Bakersfield College Foundation Corporate Philanthropist of the Year Award.

Industry-leading oil and gas producer Aera Energy has displayed its commitment to California and the communities in which it operates for nearly 100 years. Jointly owned by Shell and ExxonMobil but operated as a stand-alone company with its own board and managers, Aera is proudly based in Bakersfield, California and in Kern County, one of the largest oil-producing regions in the entire country. Innovative approaches to engineering, lean processes, and data quality helped Aera become a titan of industry—Aera produces about 125,000 barrels of oil and 32 million cubic feet of natural gas each day, accounting for nearly one-quarter of California's oil production annually. However, its community involvement and philanthropy are what truly sets them apart.

Aera actively encourages their employees to participate in events and causes that strengthen communities, recognizing individual employees who go above and beyond in this regard. Through various programs like Partnership A.E.R.A. (Achieving Excellence, Rewarding Academics), the Community Reading Project, and multiple high school programs, Aera employees are heavily involved in the communities where they live and work. In addition to these volunteering and mentoring efforts, Aera donates to over 100 community organizations each year.

Bakersfield is fortunate to have a premier oil and gas producer like Aera so dedicated to the betterment of its people and community.

Under Mrs. Sistrunk's leadership, I am sure that this will not be the last time Aera Energy is honored for its corporate philanthropy, generosity, and community involvement. On behalf of California's 23rd Congressional District, I want to thank Aera Energy for its countless contributions to communities throughout the Central Valley.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. WING MAR

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of Dr. Wing Mar, esteemed doctor, beloved husband, father, and former member of the Torrance-South Bay YMCA Board of Managers.

Dr. Wing Mar was born on January 15, 1924 in China and immigrated to the United States as a very young child with his family. After serving with the 10th Army Corps as an intelligence member of the 711th Tank Battalion headquarters during World War II, he attended University of California, Berkeley, and later graduated from the University of South Dakota Medical School.

Dr. Mar had a long and impressive career in medicine while also serving for many decades as a leader in his local YMCA. He has always been an important member of his community, working to improve medical care for the elderly, participating as a member of Physicians for Social Responsibility in the 1980s and becoming a charter member of the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California in Los Angeles. It was thanks to Dr. Mar's fundraising skills that the Chinese Historical Society was able to financially secure a Los Angeles headquarters in two beautiful historical homes in Chinatown. He will forever be remembered for his work as a doctor and volunteer with a desire to make an impact in his community and beyond.

Dr. Mar is survived by his wife Joyce, their children Jeff, Gayle and Carolyn, six grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren whom I hope take comfort in the way he lived his life as a healer, a community leader and compassionate citizen. May his memory be a blessing to us all.

RECOGNIZING GENERAL ANDREW J. GOODPASTER

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize the following letter submitted to the Daily Herald newspaper by my constituent Frank G. Splitt of Mount Prospect, Illinois. Mr. Splitt rightly acknowledges the contributions to our nation made by General Andrew J. Goodpaster, who amongst other things, served as the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, and superintendent of West Point. I encourage all my colleagues to learn about the contributions made by this legendary general from Illinois.

[From the Daily Herald, Mar. 9, 2019]

AN ILLINOISAN TOO IMPORTANT TO IGNORE

(Letter to the Editor, Opinion)

In a recent Wall Street Journal column, "Five Best Books on American Generals" Winston Groom recommended works about military leaders. C. Richard Nelson's book, "The Life and Work of General Andrew J. Goodpaster," was conspicuous by virtue of its absence from Groom's list—so too was the absence of General Goodpaster from the Herald's March 3, 2019 supplement, "Illinois' Rich History, People Places & Things that Make Illinois Stand Out."

Readers of Nelson's biography will find that Goodpaster (1915-2005), born in Granite City, Illinois, graduated from West Point in 1939. He was a soldier, engineer, and scholar who led and fought with uncommon valor in World War II, advised several presidents, most notably President Dwight D. Eisenhower, and served as NATO's Supreme Allied Commander, Europe (1969-1974). He has been called the finest officer of our era.

Goodpaster was brought out of retirement in 1977 to serve as the superintendent of West Point as it was reeling from a cheating scandal. In his four-year tenure at the academy, he sought to substitute "positive leadership" for hazing and personal abuse.

Subsequent to Goodpaster's government service, among other things, he served as the Chairman of the George C. Marshall Foundation and as a senior fellow at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. He was the recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, by President Reagan in 1984, for "lifetime accomplishments that changed the face and soul of our country."

Goodpaster's approach to analysis and decision making provides valuable lessons for current and aspiring leaders. His life story should serve as an inspiration to others who are challenged with the task of resolving complex domestic and foreign policy issues. It has been said that General Goodpaster remains "too important to ignore."

FRANK G. SPLITT,

Mount Prospect.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF DOROTHY GERALDINE NOAK ROTHERMEL

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember Dorothy Geraldine Noak Rothermel who passed away on March 1, 2019 in Pasadena, Texas.

Dorothy Geraldine Noak Rothermel was born December 20, 1929 in Carmine, Texas to Herbert and Clara Keng Noak. Dorothy graduated from Round Top-Carmine High School in 1947. On December 28th of that year, Dorothy married Thomas Hugh Rothermel of Burton, Texas.

Ms. Rothermel attended Blinn College in Brenham; Southwest Texas State College in San Marcos; and graduated from the University of Houston in 1961 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Vocational Home Economics. She also did graduate work at the University of Houston and at the Sacred Heart Dominican College in Houston.

Dorothy worked for Southwestern Bell Telephone in Houston and New Braunfels as a Switchboard Operator. In 1963, Dorothy started teaching at Pasadena High School. Her ca-

reer at Pasadena High School spanned twenty-four years where she served as Department Chairman and a Classroom Teacher in the Vocational Homemaking Department. After retirement, she served as a substitute teacher at Round Top-Carmine High School for several years.

Dorothy held memberships in the Texas State Teachers Association, Vocational Homemaking Teachers of Texas, Texas Retired Teachers Association as a Life Member, Washington County Genealogical Society, the German-Texas Heritage Society, Brenham Area Retired School Personnel Association, and the Texas Wendish Heritage Society.

Ms. Rothermel loved to research and write articles on the family history of the Noak, Keng, Hinze, Rothermel and Vogelsang families. She served on various committees helping to further her interest in genealogy, including the Fayette County History Book and the 100th Anniversary History Book of Martin Luther Lutheran Church in Carmine.

In retirement, Dorothy served as a member of Martin Luther Lutheran Church, President of the Ladies Aid, Secretary for the Church Council, and Secretary of the General Board for the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (WCLA).

Dorothy is survived by her Daughters: Connie Sue Rothermel Bird and husband, Marshall, of Splendor, and Pamela Rothermel Guthrie and husband, James, of Pasadena; Granddaughters: Rachel Diana Bird Poffinbarger and husband, James, of Splendor, Johanna Ruth Bird, of Houston, and Moriah Ashlee Guthrie, of Pasadena; and Great-Granddaughters: Camille Poffinbarger, Corinne Poffinbarger, and Cristin Poffinbarger, all of Splendor.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to remember the life of Dorothy Geraldine Noak Rothermel. May God comfort her family at this time.

HONORING JERRY LUDEKE FOR RECEIVING THE BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE FOUNDATION STERLING SILVER MEDAL

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Mrs. Jerry Ludeke as the recipient of the 2019 Bakersfield College Foundation Service Medal.

Jerry's passion for academia can be traced back over half a century to her days as an undergraduate at Indiana University After graduating, Jerry began teaching at a junior high school before returning to school to complete a Masters in Fine Arts at Tulane University in New Orleans, where she concurrently taught several undergraduate courses. Upon completion of her Masters, Jerry selflessly decided to serve as a missionary for the Presbyterian Church in Beirut, Lebanon, at the then-named Beirut College for Women. Increased hostilities in the Middle East cut the mission short, and Jerry returned to school once again—this time as a graduate student at Stanford University There, she met fellow Stanford graduate and Army veteran, John Ludeke.

Jerry and John married in 1959 and settled in Bakersfield, California, where they quickly

became involved in the community. Both educators, John taught at Bakersfield High School while Jerry held multiple positions at Bakersfield College before leaving to raise her two boys, Kevin and Scott. Although she did not formally return to teaching until the boys started high school, Jerry remained committed to her role as an educator, and founded the Volunteer Tutoring Program at Bakersfield College. In 1975 she returned full-time to the Bakersfield College Learning Center, where she worked until she and John retired together in 1994.

Jerry's commitment to community service is just as impressive as her academic history. Over the years she developed and served as the first secretary for the Holloway-Gonzales Library in Bakersfield, volunteered at the Friendship House pre-school, served as the president of the Kern County Historical Society, served on the board of both the Kern Memorial Society and Friendship Force, and directed the Bakersfield College Archives. Such extensive community involvement would overwhelm almost anyone, but for Jerry these are just the tip of the iceberg.

The Bakersfield College Foundation Sterling Silver Medal recognizes Jerry's lifelong commitment to hard work and the betterment of the Bakersfield community through the power of education. Her input on various boards and councils, and her leadership at Bakersfield College, has had an immeasurable impact on the lives of countless people. On behalf of California's 23rd Congressional District, I want to thank Jerry for her leadership and philanthropy to the communities and citizens of the Central Valley.

CONGRATULATING THE BRADLEY UNIVERSITY BRAVES MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM ON WINNING THE MISSOURI VALLEY CONFERENCE

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Bradley University Men's Basketball Team on capturing the Missouri Valley Conference title, earning them a spot in the 2019 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament.

The Braves defeated Northern Iowa University in St. Louis by a score of 57–54 to capture an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament and finish off a stellar Missouri Valley Conference tournament. Bradley pulled off an outstanding comeback in the second half after trailing by as many as 18 points with only 17 minutes left in regulation. This title is the first

the Braves won since 1988 and will be their first NCAA Tournament appearance since 2006, where they made a thrilling run to the Sweet Sixteen. As a former athlete, I understand the amount of hard work and commitment it takes to put together such an outstanding season. They are an example of the importance of dedication and a strong work ethic. I am proud there is such young talent in our community, and to see them represent Peoria so well throughout the state and country. I will be rooting them on in the NCAA Tournament and wish them continued success.

It is because of dedicated leaders such as the Bradley University Braves Men's Basketball Team that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate the Bradley University Braves Men's Basketball Team on their Missouri Valley Conference title, and wish them luck in the NCAA Tournament.

RECOGNIZING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF UL

HON. BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate UL as they celebrate their 125th anniversary this month and to recognize their important role empowering trust in the safety, security and sustainability of products, organizations, and supply chains.

Most consumers will recognize the familiar UL Mark that appears on more than 22 billion products, likely including some of the appliances, electronics, and other goods in your home. This recognized mark is a symbol that the product has demonstrated conformance to UL's internationally-recognized standards of safety.

As an approved Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), UL tests and certifies certain equipment found in U.S. workplaces and has improved safety for countless American workers.

The district I represent is proud to be the home of UL. Their Northbrook, Illinois headquarters employs more than 1,800 people, but the company's reach is truly global.

A century and a quarter after their founding as Underwriters Laboratories in Chicago, the company now operates across 143 countries worldwide, touching 20 industries, and employing more than 14,000 individuals.

Each year, over 2 billion consumers—nearly a third of the planet's population—are touched by UL safety messages.

Despite their immense growth and influence, UL remains true to its founding principle to “promote safe living and working environments.” I wish the team at UL many more years of success improving safety and empowering trust over the next century.

THANKING DRAKE CEMENT

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an important industry in our nation, and a company in my district that represents the best of corporate America. The company, Drake Cement, has an incredible safety record, and is known for its pursuit of excellence and its proud relationships with its employees and the community.

The industry at issue is the aggregate industry (sand, gravel, iron, minerals, stone and other aggregates) for use in the manufacturing of cement and concrete. Drake Cement takes raw materials, including limestone, alumina, iron and silica, and blends, heats, crushes and grinds it into the best cement west of the Rockies. The cement Drake Cement produces is used for construction products, including mortar, concrete, and masonry. You will find cement in buildings, dams, bridges, highways, floors, wells, pipes and a host of other necessary products. Without cement you cannot have modern construction and infrastructure.

Drake Cement was awarded the Sentinel of Safety Mining Award in 2017 and 2015 by the National Mining Association. This prestigious award is given to mines that have the highest and best safety records. In a business that involves dangerous equipment, heavy weight transport and moving parts, maintaining safety is not easy and it requires constant vigilance and high levels of training and awareness. Drake Cement has been awarded this difficult recognition twice and the plant was only built in 2011.

Outside a small town called Paulden, Arizona, Drake Cement built its new state of the art facility. The company takes seriously its commitment to social responsibility. It recognizes that, as a mine and manufacturer, it has an impact on the environment, but it also recognizes its impact is positive, necessary and undeniably important to our culture, our society and our modern economy.

I thank Mr. David Chavez, its Vice President, the over 120 employees who do their best every day, and the company for its contribution to Arizona and the country.